of the organs of security, and take the necessary precautions accordingly. At the observatory in Tashkent which /191/ is surrounded by a high wall and which, in addition, has a special night watchman for every single building, there was the curious occurrence that while one of the night watchmen was energetically clapping away in discharge of his duty, his own dwelling, which was within the region he was watching, was completely sacked.

As representatives of the population of the towns and villages in regard to the government authorities, there are certain elders, chosen by the people themselves, who are designated as 'aksakals' or "greybeards" and play a role completely analogous to that of European mayors. Sart Tashkent divides into four districts or yurts, /Figure 68. Caption: Central Asiatic weapons. (From H. Moser, Durch Zentral-Asien. ) /Through Central Asia/Leipzig, 1888, F. A. Brockhaus.)/ in which each nominates a special aksakal. These districts, which bear the names Shaikhantaur, Bish-Agach, Sibzor and Kukchi, subdivide further into a larger number of quarters or mahalas, each of which again has its own name. The district of Shaikhantaur, which includes the northeastern part of the town, is divided into forty-eight quarters; the district of Bish-Agach, the part of the town bordering on the Russian town has thirty-two quarters; the northwest part of the town constitutes the Sibzor district, with thirty-eight quarters, and the southwest part is the Kukchi district, with thirty-one quarters. Since its subjection to Russian authority, Tashkent constitutes /192/ administratively a separate part of the Syr-Darya province which includes in addition the districts of Kazalinsk, Perovsk, Amu-Darya, Auliye-Ata, Chimkent, and the Kurama or rural district of Tashkent. Today Tashkent is under a Russian captain of the civil guard with the rank of colonel, for whom two assistants are appointed: one for the Russian part of the town, the other, appointed from the native population, for the Asiatic town. With regard to the inner organization of Sart Tashkent, the Russians have changed almost nothing. As before, the natives choose their aksakals and kazis /judges/ themselves, pay the same taxes as before, only on a noticeably diminished scale, and their police organizations also remain unchanged: There is only the limitation that Russians passing through the Sart town at night are not to be arrested. By this compromise the Russians derive a double advantage. In the first place the natives are flattered that no one has disputed their traditional arrangements; secondly the Russians are relieved of the expense of providing street lighting, police, courts of justice and the like; furthermore they have achieved a much greater

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632 security in this way than if they had taken the whole matter into their
361 own hands, for the natives naturally go to a great deal of trouble to justify the trust placed in them so as not to lose the privileges thus far granted, as a consequence of some abuse.

641 Like the other natives of Turkestan, the men of Tashkent are also not drafted into military service, in accordance with a special stipulation incidental to the surrender of the town. Besides, the Russians would probably not have required military service from them even in the absence of such a stipulation, for the sedentary population of Turkestan would in any case supply soldiers of only very doubtful worth, and as foot soldiers they would be completely useless.

6. Family Relations.

595 Family relations among the sedentary population of Turkestan, at least according to our concepts, are extremely wretched, and a family life in our sense is completely unthinkable. The Sarts, Tadjiks and sedentary Uzbeks, being Mohammedans, are polygamous, like the Mohammedan nomads. The luxury of several wives can be afforded only by the richer men however, for even among them a 'kalym' /bride-wealth/ must be paid to the parents of the bride, which is usually a specified sum of money. The poorer men are satisfied usually with one or, at the most, two wives. Many are unable to provide themselves with a wife at all because, due to the polygamy of the richer men, the number of single women /193/ in itself is already significantly smaller than that of the men. For this reason there are no old maids in Turkestan, but on the other hand there are that many more involuntary bachelors.

584 The girls are not allowed to marry according to their own judgment, but are given away by their parents without regard to their per-
582 sonal inclinations. They marry very early, sometimes when they are ten, but as a result, when they are twenty they mostly belong among
593 the old women. The wife is completely the slave of her husband. He
562 clothes and feeds her well or badly, depending upon his whim, and without regard to his financial position or his civic rank; he lets some of his wives go about in rags and employs them for the lowest kind of labor, while he clothes others in gold and silks. If the situation for such a neglected wife is, in itself, not an enviable one, it is aggravated by the fact that she must look on while her children have to yield in everything to the children of the favorite wife, and she her-

361 Tashkent, like all important Central Asian towns, used to be surrounded by a high crenelated wall, to which there were 12 gates (darvaza). The wall had a rounded form and extended over an area of 20 versts. The gates bore the names of the towns toward which they opened. Today, the part of the town wall on the side of the Russian town has been completely demolished and the moat filled up. The gates on this side were also destroyed. On the other sides, although they still exist, they are no longer closed.

361 Administratively, Tashkent is divided
632 into four parts (yurts) which were formerly under the administration of special officials called ming-bashi. These districts are: Shaikhantaur, Sibzor, Kukchi and Bish-Agach.

361 The Shaikhantaur district constitutes
312 the northeastern part of the town. Situated in a flat locality, it is divided almost in half by a deep ravine, through which the Ankhor flows, a wide and swift aryk. The other main aryk flowing through this part of the town, called Gadragan, enters the Russian town not far from the beginning of Tash-Kuche street, and provides it with water, flowing out in
361 small aryks. The Shaikhantaur district has 48 'mahalas' (wards), which are: Tadzhik, /406/ Kashgar, five Yangi-shakhars, Sellim-mechet, Illya, Kiot, Keriady, Tash-kucha, Mir-gancha, Okhche, Zandzhilik, two Kator-turas, Tyurk, Igerchi, Ol'mazar, Doom-begi, Kurgan-araksy, Balyan-mechet, Goukush, Shur-tepe, Degriot, Khadrya, Khouz-bok, Dzhangokh, Khish-mechet, Khodzharush-noye, two Okh-mechets, Darkhon, Padar-kush, Kuduk-bashi, Badak, Shatak,

8:Kostenko 132-G-4,5 (1868-80)1880 RL1 Turkestan
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## The town of Vernyy (Alma Ata)

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132 After the Russian occupation of the Trans-Ili region in 1853, the fortress town of Vernoe (Alma Ata) was established in the following year, 1854, with the aim of consolidating the Russian domination of the Great Horde. It was founded on the spot where the town of Almata, which means 'apple', had been, a town known for its trade and as a station on the great road to China in the Middle Ages frequented, among others, by the Genoese merchants.

At first the fortress town of Vernoe was the administrative center for the Alatau okrug, subordinate to the military governor of the Semipalatinsk oblast'. After the establishment of the Turkestan military okrug, however, the fortress was made the capital town of the Semirechie oblast' and began to be called Vernyy. The natives and many Russians call Vernyy "Almata", as it was formerly called.

361 /418/ Vernyy lies on even sandy clay place, just at the foot of the Trans-Ili Alatau mountains, along the small Almatinka river.

133 The Almatinka has its source in an unusually picteresque spot in the mountains, and flows very swiftly, roaring and foaming along its course which is sprinkled with large rocks in many spots. After it emerges from the mountains it retains its swiftness and the special quality of the river bottom even though flowing through level country.